CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Sub A1

1. A method of determining the flow of a data object in a software architecture using queues to organize the transfer of data from one processing object to another, comprising the steps of:

storing queue identifiers in a path object;

receiving and processing a data object in a first of said processing objects;

identifying a queue corresponding to a second of said processing objects responsively to an indicator corresponding to said data object;

placing said data object in a queue identified in said step of identifying.

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein said step of identifying includes determining a result of said step processing.

3. A method as in claim 2, wherein said step of identifying includes determining a result of said step processing and said result corresponding to said queue.

4. A method for determining the flow of data in a software architecture in which queues are used to

organize the transfer of data from one process to another process, comprising the steps of:

performing a process on a data part of a first data object, by a first processing object;

identifying a first queue to which said first data object is to be transferred from a indicator part of said first data object;

modifying said indicator part of said first data object to produce a second data object;

performing said process on said second data object;

identifying a second queue to which said second data object is to be transferred.

5. A method as in claim 4, further comprising determining a result of said step of performing, said step of identifying including identifying said second queue responsively to said step of determining.

6. A pipeline software architecture in which data objects are transferred from a first processing object to a selected one of second and third processing objects by queuing the data objects in a queue of said selected one, comprising:

a definition of a path object corresponding to each of said data objects;

at least one of said path objects containing an indicator of at least one of said second and third processing object;

said first processing object defining a process a result of which is to insure that a first data object processed by said first processing object is placed in a queue of said at least one of said second and third processing objects responsively to one of said path objects corresponding to said first data object.

7. An architecture as in claim 6, wherein said process includes the generation of an indication of a result of a subprocess of said first processing object and said first data object processed by said first processing object is placed in said queue of said at least one of said second and third processing objects responsively to one of said path objects corresponding to said first data object and responsively to said indication.

ADD A2